

Help and Support

How to configure Internet Explorer to open Office documents in the appropriate Office program instead of in Internet Explorer

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SYMPTOMS

When you click an HTML link to a Microsoft Office file (such as a Microsoft Word or Excel document), Internet Explorer may open the file in Internet Explorer, instead of opening the file in the appropriate Office program.

CAUSE

This behavior may occur if Internet Explorer is configured to host documents for Office programs that are installed on the computer. By default, Internet Explorer is configured to host documents for Office programs.

RESOLUTION

To configure Internet Explorer to open Office files in the appropriate Office program instead of in Internet Explorer, use one of the following methods.

Note These methods configure Internet Explorer to open Office files in the appropriate Office program for all users."

Method 1: Use the Folder Options tool

Note If you are running Windows NT 4.0, you may not be able to use the following procedure to configure Internet Explorer to open Office files in the appropriate Office program. If you are running Windows NT 4.0, use Method 2.

Note If you are running Terminal Server on Windows 2000 or Windows Server 2003, you may not be able to click **Advanced** to open the **Edit File Type** dialog box in step 4 of this procedure. This issue occurs if the NoFileAssociate policy is enabled. Enabling this policy prevents users (including administrators) from changing file type associations for all users. For additional information about this behavior, click the following article number to view the article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

[257592](http://support.microsoft.com/kb/257592/) (<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/257592/>) Changes in file types and file association features in Windows 2000 and Windows Server 2003

To configure Internet Explorer to open Office files in the appropriate Office program by using the Folder Options tool:

1. Open **My Computer**.
2. On the **Tools** menu (or the **View** menu), click **Folder Options** (or click **Options**).
3. Click the **File Types** tab.
4. In the **Registered file types** list, click the specific Office document type (for example, Microsoft Excel Worksheet), and then click **Advanced** (or click **Edit**).
5. In the **Edit File Type** dialog box, click to clear the **Browse in same window** check box (or click to clear the **Open Web documents in place** check box).
6. Click **OK**.

Method 2: Edit the Windows Registry

Important This section, method, or task contains steps that tell you how to modify the registry. However, serious problems might occur if you modify the registry incorrectly. Therefore, make sure that you follow these steps carefully. For added protection, back up the registry before you modify it. Then, you can restore the registry if a problem occurs. For more information about how to back up and restore the registry, click the following article number to view the article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

[322756](http://support.microsoft.com/kb/322756/) (<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/322756/>) How to back up and restore the registry in Windows

To configure Internet Explorer to open Office files in the appropriate Office program by editing the Windows registry, set the BrowserFlags DWORD value to 8 (or 9 for Microsoft Excel worksheets) for the appropriate document type. To do this, follow these steps:

1. Start Registry Editor (Regedt32.exe).
2. Locate and then click the following registry key:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes

3. Locate the subkey for the specific Office document type. The following table lists the subkeys for several common Office document types.

Document Type	Subkey
Microsoft Excel 7.0 worksheet	Excel.Sheet.5
Microsoft Excel 97 worksheet	Excel.Sheet.8
Microsoft Excel 2000 worksheet	Excel.Sheet.8
Microsoft Word 7.0 document	Word.Document.6
Microsoft Word 97 document	Word.Document.8
Microsoft Word 2000 document	Word.Document.8
Microsoft Project 98 project	MSProject.Project.8
Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 document	PowerPoint.Show.8

To locate the subkey for a document type that is not included in this table, find the subkey for the extension that is associated with the document type. The (default) value for that subkey contains the name of the subkey for that document type. For example, the .xls extension is associated with Excel worksheets. Under the .xls subkey, the (default) value contains the string "Excel.Sheet.5." Therefore, the subkey for the Microsoft Excel Worksheet document type is the following subkey:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\Excel.Sheet.5

4. After you identify the subkey for the specific Office document type, add the following value for all subkeys except Excel.Sheet.5:

Value name: BrowserFlags
Data type: REG_DWORD
Value: 8

For Excel.Sheet.5, add the following value:

Value name: BrowserFlags
Data type: REG_DWORD
Value: 9

5. Click **OK**, and then quit Registry Editor.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, click the following article number to view the article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

[927009](http://support.microsoft.com/kb/927009/) (<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/927009/>) A new window opens when you try to view a 2007 Microsoft Office program document in Windows Internet Explorer 7

927009

APPLIES TO

- Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.01
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.5
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0, when used with:
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Web Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Datacenter Edition (32-bit x86)
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition (32-bit x86)
 - Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Standard Edition (32-bit x86)
 - Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition
 - Microsoft Windows XP Professional
 - Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition
 - Microsoft Windows XP Tablet PC Edition
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter Server
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional Edition
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
 - Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 Standard Edition
 - Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0, Terminal Server Edition
 - Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 Developer Edition
 - Microsoft Windows Millennium Edition
 - Microsoft Windows 98 Second Edition
 - Microsoft Windows 98 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Excel 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Excel 2002 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Word 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Word 2002 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Project 2002 Standard Edition
- Microsoft Project 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 Standard Edition
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2002 Standard Edition

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